



KALIHI VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 16

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006 KALIHI VALLEY DISTRICT PARK

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-chair Jory Watland called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. without initial quorum.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lance Bateman, Jory Watland, Lisa Mitchell, Kanoa Bristol, Chester Koga, and Wilton Ching.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bill Woods-Bateman, Anthony De Campo, and Merry Balatico.

GUESTS: Captain Kevin Farm (Honolulu Fire Department); Lisa Ginoza (Governor Linda Lingle's representative, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General), John Mizuno, Edgar Fernandez (Representative Dennis Arakaki Staff); Noel Ono (Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Representative); Elisa Agpaoa (Councilmember Romy Cachola's Office staff), Al Canopin (Councilmember Rod Tam's Office staff), Maxine Shea (Senator Donna Mercado Kim's Staff); Sgt. Michael Clark (Honolulu Police Department), Hazel Murakami, Pascual Dabis, Ed Rodrigues Sr., Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD)- Captain Kevin Farm reported 1 structure fire, 0 brush, 1, rubbish, 0 vehicle, 62 medical emergencies, 0 search and rescues, and 9 miscellaneous calls.

Fire Safety Tip: Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and the second major cause of death among older adults. If you are cooking and must leave the kitchen, even only for a few minutes, turn off the stove. Keep a fire extinguisher (with a minimum rating of 2A10BC) in or near your kitchen and learn how to use it. Inspect the extinguisher regularly to ensure that it has not expired.

Questions, answers and comments:

1. Captain Farm gave tips on using a fire extinguisher.
2. In response to Mr. Rodrigues question regarding using water for electric fires, Capt. Farm replied it is best to smother the flames with an extinguisher or baking soda. Using water is not recommended as it may cause the fire to spread.

Member Lisa Mitchell arrived at 7:30 and a quorum was present.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD)- Sgt. Clark reported the following:

1. 0 homicides, 14 sex offense, 0 robbery, 18 burglary, 36 theft, 18 UEMV's, 1 motor vehicle thefts, 8 assaults, 27 MVC, 18 property damage, 1 drug/narcotics, 7 family offenses, 81 arguments, 5 DUI.



2. Sgt. Clark gave information for reporting drug dealing and tips on how to recognize illegal activities in the neighborhood. He advised not to approach suspected persons who are intoxicated and to report any suspicious activity to HPD by calling 911 or calling the narcotics hotline at 529 3101.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. In response to an area resident's question regarding reporting illegal activities on State property, Sgt. Clark replied that HPD responds, identifies the perpetrators, and they are given a warning for first time offenses. If the activity is repeated then the suspects are arrested.
2. In response to Vice Chair Watland's question regarding arrests made under the Likelike Highway, Sgt. Clark replied it is the State Department of Land and Natural (DLNR) resources to maintain the area.
3. Member Bateman referred to prior statements from HPD that they should be able to take action because "No Trespassing" signs have been installed. Lt. Hite replied that HPD responds if there is imminent danger during day light hours citing safety concerns HPD officers responding to and accessing the area after daylight hours. Bateman was asked for clarification and asked the HPD and the representative from the Governor's office to determine what actions would be taken and by whom, when instances occur in the evening, and to communicate the response to the Board and to the resident.
4. Lisa Ginoza, Governor's representative confirmed that the "No Trespassing signs were installed under the Likelike Highway and she will check with DLNR and the State Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding the maintenance of the area.

The Vice Chair thanked HPD for attending the meeting.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS: No concerns were reported at this time.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Member Bristol gave the report and it was filed. Vice Chair Watland noted a negative balance in the publicity funds and reported that expenses for videotaping services will have to come from the operating funds.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 8, 2006 REGULAR MEETING:

Board member Koga moved and Board member Watland seconded that the motion to approve regular Board meeting minutes of March 8, 2006 with no corrections:

The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRS REPORT:

1. Kalihi Street Task Force—the Board was given a letter from the City stating the City would not consider modified roadway and sidewalks at this time due to outstanding ADA lawsuit in which the City is involved. Vice Chair Watland would like to know if there is a way for the City to pave the roadway on Kalihi Street or create ‘footpaths’ w/o having to necessarily build a sidewalk which would require meeting ADA standards.
2. Member Bristol suggested extending the pavement on Kalihi Street to create a safe walking area.
3. Vice Chair Watland reported damage to stone walls on Numana and Emmeline properties due to heavy rains in recent weeks.

CHARTER COMMISSION:

Vice Chair Watland announced that the charter commission is in its final stages of deliberation and requested more information on the charter commission and the process by which amendments are made. Bateman offered that there would be continued hearings on selections to be forwarded to the November ballot.

61,000 OUTSTANDING WARRANTS: Sheriff John Locke distributed statistics and reported the following:

1. Locke explained the statistics in the report that was distributed, showing new warrants, resolved warrants, and the number remaining.
2. Locke reported problems in the implementation of computer programs and the process by which warrants are processed at the judiciary, which causes delays in arrests.
3. Lack of manpower, budget constraints, combined with the high number of warrants also causes problems for executing warrants.
4. Member Bateman noted that the statistics do not add up. Sheriff Locke noted that he had not checked the published figures.
5. Vice Chair Watland made an inquiry regarding the shooting/killing of the restrained prisoner on the Big Island. The Governor’s representative advised that the Sheriff not respond to the question at this time.

HOMELESS AT THE BRIDGE ON LIKELIKE HIGHWAY:

John Mizuno, representative for Representative Dennis Arakaki gave updates on the Likelike bridge homeless situation.

LIKELIKE HIGHWAY ROAD SINKING AND SEPARATION INTO KUPEHAU PARK:

It was reported that no new sinking or separation had been seen, even with the rains. The situation will continue to be monitored. Temporary repair was to begin in January but has not begun.

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE— Noel Ono, Deputy Director of the City Department of Human Resources (DHR) distributed the report and highlighted the following:

1. Inspection on March 17, 2006 by Lester Hirano revealed Ahihi Street is privately owned, including the pedestrian bridge over Kamanaiiki Stream, adjacent to the vacant lot located at 1628 Ahihi Street. The City did not purchase any property, and there is no evidence of a parking site. Follow up inspection on 4/6/06 by Manu Ayau revealed parking on a private road not owned by the City. No violation observed. Vehicle parked on private property.
2. Nihi and Murphy Streets are privately owned unimproved roadways. In accordance to ROH the City is only authorized to provide pavement repairs to such roadways. Any drainage improvements should be addressed through the Improvement District process.
3. Upon receiving a request from the Kalihi Neighborhood Board, the BWS inspector was dispatched to assess the condition of the road (Kam IV and School Street mauka) and the inspector confirmed that the Contractor had repaired the road on Friday, March 17. Board members suggested the job was completed unsatisfactorily, and asked if inspection and sign-off for acceptance had been done. Ono did not know.
4. Joan Manke, ES for the NCO has met with representatives from DFM, DTS, DDC, and DPP and has been briefed on the S-Curve issue. Joan is to meet with the Managing Director, and she will be in contact with Mr. Woods-Bateman.
5. Bicycle signs were installed on Kam IV Road January 30, 2006.
6. DTS is continuing to investigate the request of member Mitchell for an increase in service for the # 7 Bus on Sundays from every hour to every half-hour. DTS requires more time to gather accurate data and will report back to the NHBD in May.
7. Regarding development on Numana Road -- Gravel removed on 3/3/06 by the owner. Complainant was called several times by two inspectors and no response was received. Monitoring will continue and appropriate action will be taken. No violations observed.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Vice Chair Watland inquired if there is a way the City can address needed work on private roads that are used as public right of ways.

2. Member Chester Koga reported that the curb extensions and grating are causing water to accumulate from Kalihi Stream and cause flooding on Kalihi Street where it meets Makuahine Street when it rains. The Board is requesting that the grating be cleaned often especially during the rainy season.
3. Vice Chair Watland reported heavy equipment is being driven through the Esteban property (adjacent/abutting property to construction site) without authorization from the owners to use their easement. Remains of excavation are still on the Esteban property. Vice Chair Watland would like to know why that in itself is not a violation.
4. Member Lance Bateman reported 'undriveable' conditions due to work being done in the area of Kalihi Street makai bound from King to Dillingham. Bateman reported severe potholes on the one lane that is open for traffic flow.
5. Vice Chair Watland would like to know if there is a way for the City to pave the roadway on Kalihi Street or create 'footpaths' w/o having to necessarily build a sidewalk which would require meeting ADA standards. Ono referred to the prior notice on the City's stance.
6. Member Lisa Mitchell would like to know the status on the lights at the Kalihi Valley District Park's baseball field.
7. Member Lisa Mitchell raised concerns regarding signage installed for bikers on Kam IV Road. She claims that the signs installed on January 30 are not visible as they were installed behind a tree.

The Chair thanked Ono for his report.

COUNCILMEMBER TAM'S REPRESENTATIVE- Al Canopin distributed Councilmember Tam's report and highlighted the following:

1. No response from the administration regarding Nihi and Murphy Streets and the S-Curve inquiries.
2. No response from the administration regarding footpaths for Kallihi Street. Bateman pointed out this had been discussed before Canopin arrived.
3. Councilmember Tam introduced a resolution maintenance private public partnership for road repairs. Input from the community is encouraged. For further information please contact Councilmember Tam at 547-7006.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Vice Chair Watland noted that footpaths and the S-Curve issues were addressed by the Mayor's Representative earlier in the meeting, and he thanked Canopin and Councilmember Tam for their efforts on the issue.

2. Vice Chair Watland requested to be included in the dialogue regarding footpaths for Kalihi Street and establishing a timeline for the proposed project.
3. Canopin announced that he checked with Hawaiian Electric regarding financial assistance for the improvement district process covering up to one-third of project costs. A representative from Hawaiian Electric informed Canopin that the program no longer exists, however there is an alternative program in its stead. The information is on Councilmember Tam's written report and any questions may be directed to Councilmember Tam's office at 547-7006.

The Chair thanked Canopin for his report.

COUNCILMEMBER CACHOLA'S REPRESENTATIVE—Elisa Agpaoa distributed the monthly report and was available for questions.

The Chair thanked Agpaoa for attending the meeting.

GOVERNOR LINDA LINGLE'S REPRESENTATIVE- Lisa Ginoza distributed the Governor's report including information on avian flu and highlighted the following:

1. In response to an inquiry from the Board regarding the change in order to for pitch roofs and solar panels at Kalihi Valley Homes (KVH) Ginoza reported that here will be no change in order, but the project has been subdivided into separate phases. Flat roofs will remain flat, and funds will be spent on improvements for the interior of the units.
2. In order for Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH) to change the standards for occupancy, amendments to the Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) would have to be made. Amendments are subject to a formal process, which requires public hearings and review of the governor.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Member Bateman requested an update on the status on Kalihi Valley Housing's renovations progress.
2. Member Bristol requested information on possible alternatives to flat roofs and raised his concerns regarding the aesthetics of KVH.
3. Lisa Mitchell raised concerns regarding the vacancies on Kuhio Park Terrace (KPT) and she would like an update on the status of filling the vacancies.
4. Vice Chair Watland inquired if a survey of the homeless has been done to see how many may have been evicted from public/low-incoming housing.

The Chair thanked Ginoza for attending the meeting.

REPRESENTATIVE DENNIS ARAKAKI – Edgar Fernandez submitted a report and highlighted the following:

1. The Legislature is entering conference committee period. House Bill 2670 was deferred by the Senate Committee on Human Services and Senate Bill 3133 is being used as a vehicle for universal health care.
2. To check the status of bills, one can log on to the State Capitol website at www.capitol.hawaii.gov.

The Chair thanked Fernandez for attending the meeting.

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM—Maxine Shea distributed the Senator's report and highlighted the following:

1. Gave legislative updates and announced the Legislature will be deliberating measures in conference committees in the coming weeks.
2. The Senator introduced a resolution requesting the auditor to conduct a financial and management audit of the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (HCDCH).

The Chair thanked Shea for attending the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next meeting of the Kalihi Valley Neighborhood Board will be at 7 p.m. on May 10, 2006 at the Kalihi Valley District Park.
2. Member Lisa Mitchell announced she will be collecting used tires to recycle on April 29 from 9 to 11 am. Drop off is will be at Kaewai Elementary School. For information please contact Lisa Mitchell 392-8445.
3. The Kalihi Booster Club had a successful Easter egg hunt. Thank you to all the donors and volunteers for their efforts in making this a successful event.

ADJOURNMENT- Hearing no objections, Vice Chair Watland adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

1st Draft submitted by Joey Manahan, Neighborhood Assistant
Reviewed and accepted for publication by William E. Woods-Bateman, Chair